

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06056 131719Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 IO-13 AF-10 /084 W  
-----027096 131724Z /41

O 131638Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1375  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6056

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, SP  
SUBJ: GIBRALTAR

1. WHEN I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA IN SAN SEBASTIAN  
ON AUGUST 11, I ASKED HIM IF HE COULD GIVE ME SOME  
INDICATION OF THE PRESENT STATE OF PLAY WITH THE UK  
ON GIBRALTAR. I REMINDED HIM THAT THE U.S. POSITION  
ON THIS SUBJECT WAS A NEUTRAL ONE AND THAT MY INQUIRY  
WAS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION.

2. OREJA SAID THAT HE EXPECTED TO SEE FOREIGN SECRETARY  
OWEN IN SEPTEMBER. (THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION THAT OWEN  
MIGHT COME TO MADRID, BUT IT SEEMS MORE LIKELY THAT  
OREJA WILL MEET WITH HIM IN NEW YORK AT THE UNGA, NOW  
THAT PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ IS PLANNING A VISIT TO THE  
UK IN OCTOBER.) OREJA SAID THAT THE QUESTION WAS NOT  
AN URGENT ONE AND THAT THE MAIN THRUST WAS TO TRY TO  
WORK OUT A SOLUTION WHICH TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS  
OF THE PEOPLE OF GIBRALTAR. SPAIN WAS ENTIRELY  
WILLING TO CONSIDER A REGIME OF AUTONOMY FOR GIBRALTAR,  
AS IT IS CONSIDERING AUTONOMOUS STATUS FOR CATALUNIA  
AND THE BASQUE COUNTIRES. IT IS UNDERSTOOD, OF COURSE,  
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THAT THIS AUTONOMY WOULD HAVE TO BE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK  
OF GIBRALTAR'S INTEGRATION INTO SPAIN.

3. FINALLY, OREJA COMMENTED THAT THE SPANISH WOULD  
BE PREPARED TO RELAX ITS PRESENT RESTRICTIVE MEASURES,  
INCLUDING LAND ACCESS, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF POSITIVE  
MOVES IN THE DIRECTION OF GIBRALTAR'S REINTEGRATION

INTO SPAIN.

4. FROM OTHER SOURCES I HAVE LEARNED THAT THE SPANISH  
HAVE BEEN GIVEN SOME INDICATION BY THE BRITISH THAT THE  
UK VIEWS THE GIBRALTAR PROBLEM WITH CONSIDERABLY GREATER  
FLEXIBILITY THAN BEFORE. STABLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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